Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a patient for a condition ~~characterized by symptoms that can be alleviated by interfering with the activity of endogenous ligands on the $\alpha_2\delta$ subunit of a voltage gated calcium channel~~ selected from the group consisting of seizures, vertigo, migraine headaches, chronic pain disorders, a neurodegenerative disease, tic disorders, tremor disorders, nausea, hiccups, hyperhidrosis, sleep disorders, fatigue, fibromyalgia, premature labor, preeclampsia or eclampsia, irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease, gastrointestinal damage caused by drugs and alcohol, drug addiction, obsessive compulsive disorders, generalized anxiety disorders, impulse control disorders, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, said method comprising:

administering to a patient experiencing the condition an amount of one or more of L-norleucine, L-isoleucine, L-alloisoleucine, L-methionine, L-leucine, 2-cyclohexylglycine, 2-phenylglycine, 2-amino-2-norbornane carboxylic acid, 1-aminocyclohexane carboxylic acid, 2-aminoheptanoic acid, 2-aminocaprylic acid, and 2-aminononanoic acid under conditions effective to treat the ~~condition,~~

~~wherein when the condition is a hot flash or a symptom of hormonal variation, the compound is not L-leucine~~ condition.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is L-norleucine.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is L-isoleucine.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is L-alloisoleucine.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is L-methionine.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is L-leucine.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is 2-cyclohexylglycine.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is 2-phenylglycine.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is 2-amino-2-norbornane carboxylic acid.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is 1-aminocyclohexane carboxylic acid.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is 2-aminoheptanoic acid.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is 2-aminocaprylic acid.

13. Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is 2-aminononanoic acid.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein compound is administered in an amount of about 10 to about 5000 mg per day.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein said administering is carried out orally, parenterally, subcutaneously, transdermally, intravenously, intramuscularly, intraperitoneally, by intranasal instillation, by implantation, by intracavitary or intravesical instillation, intraocularly, intraarterially, intralesionally, or by application to mucous membranes.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is present in a pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound and a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 16 wherein the pharmaceutical composition is in a liquid or solid dosage form.

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is present in a nutritional supplement comprising the compound and ~~an organoleptically~~ a suitable carrier.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 18 wherein the nutritional supplement is in a liquid or solid dosage form.

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47. (Currently Amended) A composition in a single unit dosage form comprising:

a ~~pharmaceutically or organoleptically acceptable~~ carrier and

one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of 2-cyclohexylglycine, 2-phenylglycine, 2-amino-2-norbornane carboxylic acid, 1-aminocyclohexane carboxylic acid, 2-aminoheptanoic acid, 2-aminocaprylic acid, 2-aminononanoic acid, L-norleucine~~, L-isoleucine~~, L-alloisoleucine, and L-methionine~~, and L-leucine~~,

wherein the single unit dosage form comprises an amount of the one or more compounds which is effective to treat a condition ~~characterized by symptoms that can be alleviated by interfering with the activity of endogenous ligands on the $\alpha_2\delta$ subunit of a voltage-gated calcium channel~~ selected from the group consisting of hot flashes, seizures, vertigo, migraine headaches, chronic pain disorders, a neurodegenerative disease, tic disorders, tremor disorders, nausea, hiccups, hyperhidrosis, sleep disorders, fatigue, fibromyalgia, premature labor, preeclampsia or eclampsia, irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease, gastrointestinal damage caused by drugs and alcohol, drug addiction, obsessive compulsive disorders, generalized anxiety disorders, impulse control disorders, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

48. (Original) The composition according to claim 47 wherein the composition comprises two or more compounds.

49. (New) A method of treating hot flashes in a patient comprising:

administering to a patient that experiences hot flashes an amount of one or more of L-norleucine, L-alloisoleucine, L-methionine, 2-cyclohexylglycine, 2-phenylglycine, 2-amino-2-norbornane carboxylic acid, 1-aminocyclohexane carboxylic acid, 2-aminoheptanoic acid, 2-aminocaprylic acid, and 2-aminononanoic acid under conditions effective to treat the hot flashes.

50. (New) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is L-methionine.

51. (New) The method according to claim 49 wherein compound is administered in an amount of about 10 to about 5000 mg per day.

52. (New) The method according to claim 49 wherein said administering is carried out orally, parenterally, subcutaneously, transdermally, intravenously, intramuscularly, intraperitoneally, by intranasal instillation, by implantation, by intracavitary or intravesical instillation, intraocularly, intraarterially, intralesionally, or by application to mucous membranes.

53. (New) The method according to claim 49 wherein the compound is present in a pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound and a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.

54. (New) The method according to claim 53 wherein the pharmaceutical composition is in a liquid or solid dosage form.

55. (New) The method according to claim 49 wherein the compound is present in a nutritional supplement comprising the compound and a suitable carrier.

56. (New) The method according to claim 55 wherein the nutritional supplement is in a liquid or solid dosage form.